

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 218804  
ORIGIN EA-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DBLAKEMORE:AG 8/28/78  
APPROVED BY EA/K:RGRICH, JR.  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
EA ONLY

-----130286 290050Z /64  
O 282345Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 218804

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED JOINT ROK-US MISSILE STUDY

1. WHILE THE FINAL REPORT OF THE JOINT DEFENSE-STATE STRIKE STUDY GROUP ON ROK REQUIREMENTS FOR SURFACE TO SURFACE MISSILES (SSM'S) AND SSM TECHNOLOGY HAS NOT BEEN DISTRIBUTED, THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY IS AVAILABLE. (A COPY OF THE SUMMARY WAS INCLUDED IN THE BRIEFING BOOK FOR THE ELEVENTH SCM, OF WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS A COPY.)

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DELAY IN DISTRIBUTION OF THE FINAL REPORT IS DUE IN PART TO UNCERTAINTY WITHIN DEFENSE WHETHER TO RECOMMEND THAT WE PROCEED WITH A JOINT US-ROK STUDY. THERE IS SOME FEELING THAT SINCE THE US UNILATERAL STUDY FINDS VIRTUALLY ALL ADDITIONAL TYPES OF SSM TO BE INAPPROPRIATE IN THE KOREAN CONTEXT, WE SHOULD ABANDON  
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PAGE 02 STATE 218804

THE IDEA OF A JOINT STUDY AND SIMPLY SHARE WITH THE ROKG THE RESULTS OF OUR STUDY. DOD HAS SOUGHT GENERAL VESSEY'S VIEWS THROUGH DEFENSE CHANNELS.

3. EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON WHETHER WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH THE JOINT STUDY IN THE LIGHT OF THE NEGATIVE CONCLUSIONS CONTAINED IN THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE POLITICAL OBJECTIVE  
WE ORIGINALLY HOPED TO ACHIEVE THROUGH A JOINT STUDY -  
A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WITH LEGITIMATE ROK OBJECTIVES AND  
THE DEVELOPMENT OF LONG TERM LEVERAGE AGAINST PROSPECTIVE  
ROK R AND D ADVENTURISM - WOULD STILL BE VALID DESPITE THE  
UNILATERAL STUDY RESULTS. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** MISSILES, STUDIES  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE218804  
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**Drafter:** DBLAKEMORE:AG 8/28/78  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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